27th November 1952]

Transfer of Communist political prisoners from Salem Jail.

* 168[a] Q.—SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Law be pleased to state when the Communist political prisoners will be transferred from Salem Jail to their linguistic districts?

THE HON. SRI K. P. KUTTIKRISHNAN NAIR :—" The hon. Member is apparently referring to the ordinary convicted prisoners in the Central Jail, Salem, who are members of the Communist Party. The Government have since ordered the transfer of the Malayalam-speaking and Telugu-speaking prisoners among them to jails in their respective linguistic areas, namely, the Central Jails at Cannanore and Rajahmundry. The Tamil-speaking convicts will continue to be confined in the Central Jail, Salem, which is in the Tamil area."

SRI K. P. GOPALAN :—" Will the Government be pleased to release all the political prisoners? "

MR. SPEAKER :—" That is altogether a different question. This question relates to the transfer of Communist prisoners from the Salem Jail to some other jails. Out of that, how can the question of release of all prisoners arise? "

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" Will the Government consider it desirable to release all the Communist prisoners, since their accredited leaders, most of them, are in the Assembly? "

MR. SPEAKER :—" The hon. Member may give notice of a separate question. This question relates to the transfer of prisoners."

Ramalingam Chettiar Retrenchment Committee.

* 170 Q.—SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) when the Ramalingam Chettiar Retrenchment Committee was appointed;

(b) the terms of appointment;

(c) the expenditure incurred on the Committee;

(d) whether the Committee's recommendations were accepted and implemented by the Government to any extent; and

(e) what the savings are to the Government by such implementation?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (a) The Committee was appointed by a Government Order on 11th October 1947.

" (b) The terms of reference to the Committee were—

(1) effecting of economies in expenditure on new departments and appointments brought into existence during the war and after;

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[a] Starred questions Nos. 168, 170 and 179 postponed from the list for 26th November 1952.